Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals Loan Current Topics Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

THE DEMOCRACY AND THE PEOPLE. From the N. Y. Times.

It is really pitiful to see the quivering of the once "unterrified." Not the fabled Regulus, with his eyelids torn away and his uncurtained eyes exposed to the noontide glare of the Carthagenian sun, recoiled more sensitively than does now the Democratic party from the fiery eye of the people. Everywhere it is all the same—nothing but shrinking and evasion. Instead of plunging recklessly into the fight as of old, they are all taken up with the light as of old, they are all taken up with the thought of avoiding close quarters, and so shifting as to escape further punishment. They would give all the world to get in a

telling blow upon the administration, but can find no point where they durst plant themselves to attempt it. If they try the national debt, and open ever so shyly upon the only alternative, repudiation, they prick the people's honesty and rouse an anger which threatens to annihilate them. They are no better off if they make a bolt at the President's strict and liberal policy of reconstruc-tion, for there again they wound the people's old-fashioned loyalty and love of order. What makes it all the worse is that they cannot shake off their old notoriety, and are suspected at every glance and turn. Their past sins are still so fresh in the recollection that, by an inevitable law of association, the people connect therewith all present Democratic motives and designs. Every movement is referred to the lingering disposition of the time when the party practically turned against the Government, and sided with traitors. It is felt that the attempt to balk reconstruction is all of a piece with the attempt to balk the war which saved us from destruction-that the temper which opposed the raising of a dollar is just the temper which would refuse the payment of every dollar-that the spirit which was factiously hostile to the patriotic devotion of President Lincoln is precisely that which is now engaged in hostility to President Grant. No amount of protestation or sophistical explanation helps the matter. All that has been tried to the last possibility, and the only result has been sorer punishment than ever. The people will not give up their old memories. Their old instincts and reasonings will stick. The party, after a great deal of vain struggling, has become sensible of the actual case, and it weighs upon them like a sense of doom. In spite of all their high talk, they know in their hearts that there is no withstanding the force against them. They are as completely demoralized as were even the Rebels in the last stage of

It is needless to say that this cannot last. The very vitality of any party is in its strong hopeful spirit. The day that ends decay begins. A spiritless party is a dying party. It lives only to pine, fade, and shrivel, and to drop away by inches into its original elements. It may be that outright dissolution will not overtake the Democratic party for many years to come. But that matters little. The mere formal organization is nothing. When a party gets too weak to be longer formidable, it ceases to exist for any practical purpose. Without the ability to regain public confidence and its old power-having rendered all retreat to old principles ridiculous, and to old regards impossible, the Democratic party has actually nothing left to live for. The utmost it can do is mischief.

CRIME AND REVOLUTION. From the N. Y. Tribune.

The papers of the opposition in Mexico have excited themselves over the so-called "legal assassination" of three men charged with the not uncommon conspiracy to rob a conducta of silver and begin a revolution. Out of nine or ten soldiers found guilty of the plot these three only were executed; the rest were sentenced to imprisonment for life -which act, viewing the ruthless traditions of Mexico, might be looked upon as a reasonable exercise of forbearance. The opposition at the capital fiercely charge upon the government that its three victims were not fairly tried; but how often has this been notably the case in a Mexican court? Suspicion goes so far as to hint that the inculpating papers found on the persons of the condemned were put there by guiltier persons in official life-for what reason it is impossible to fancy, unless it be preposterously said that the administration fell short of proofs. Here we have, however, a case of the growning weakness of Mexico, her judicial system.

This system has all the worst faults. It is profoundly secret, it is dreadfully slow, it is provokingly corrupt. Our courts and lawyers may be as bad as some of those in Mexico, but they have not so much in their own hands. In spite of the excellent project of Minister Mariscal for judicial reform, we believe that the Mexican courts have no juries. A judge and one or two lawyers are all that are necessary to a case. Plantiffs may make their complaints from judge to judge, and so enter upon a penal round of law the end of which it is difficult to foresee. The vilest criminal has been able to claim the legal asylum known as amparo, which is equivalent to our right of appeal, save that it may be enjoyed with astounding facility and before a variety of judges.

Now, if the opposition of Mexico were in earnest, it would probably have attacked with might and main the most infamous case of this kind known to recent crime. Major-General Benigno Canto, an officer of the Juarez Government, took out of his bed in August of last year, at Durango, ex-Governor Patoni, late a fellow-prisoner with Ortega, and had him shot in a horrible way. He avowed, when at length provoked to answer, that the Government had given him reserved orders for the murder. His known hostility to his victim, the Government's indignant demand for immediate trial, and the shame and mystery of the event, suppressed any instant charge of complicity against the Government. But now, after repeated promises of trial, and after a lapse of a year and a month since General Patoni was assassinated, his murderer remains untried. The Canto case has passed through an almost incredible process of postponements. First he was called to the capital to be ejected from his seat as a member of Congress; then he consumed time in one of the courts of the capital, marrying meanwhile; next he appeared in Durango, where he declined the ordinary jurisdiction, and appealed to a superior court, which annulled the jurisdiction of

to state what condition it is in.

a lower one and ordered that he be subjected

took charge of him, but, subsequently de-

thread of the case," says an administration

paper, calling upon the Durango authorities

ought to be well known to the Supreme Court, to the Secretary of Justice, and to the general administration of Mexico. The government which keeps an army paid, which can command the election of a majority of partisans, which can put down in a majority of partisans, which can put down insurrections and shoot men at will, surely possesses the means of expediting justice in the case of one of its own officers. The late executions make for it a dilemma from the logic of which it can hardly escape; and if it be right to kill three men, who, it is charged, were not fairly tried, and not certainly guilty, surely there is a chance to visit justice upon a mani-fest murderer, accused of his crime by the Government itself, and for a year and more without trial. The official silence under which the Canto case has been allowed to consume patience is shamefully lamentable; the suspicion to which it tempts, in want of a prompt vindication from the accused Government, is simply horrible. Secrecy in such a case may be a blunder worse than a crime, and postponement a tampering with revolution. If the Mexicans are excitedly suspicious beyond their unhappy wont, we may guess the reason, and on all accounts we hope that the Government and people of Mexico may be able to vindicate themselves.

THE ELECTIONS.

Prom the N. Y. World. The contest has been so close in Pennsylvania and Ohio that the result in both States is somewhat doubtful, and nothing short of the full official returns seems likely to put it entirely beyond dispute. If the Republicans have carried one of those States, or both, it is by majorities so slight as to make even their success a source of discouragement and humiliation. Considering how large their majorities in those States were last year, and how very small they must be this year, if they have carried the States at all, they have reason to ask themselves how many such victories they can stand and escape total annihilation? General Grant's majority in Pennsylvania was 28,898, and in Ohio, 40,617. And now, if his

caped "by the skin of its teeth." The enormous patronage of the Federal Government is a potent influence in all elections, and that influence has been wielded by the Republicans. If neither party had been aided by it, nobody can doubt that Ohio and Pennsylvania would have been carried by the Democrats, on Tuesday, by handsome majorities. But if the Federal patronage had been on the Democratic side, as it was on the Republican side, the Democratic majorities would have been prodigious and triumphant.

party is not beaten in both States, it has es-

It would be preposterous for General Grant to claim these elections as an endorsement of his administration. Last fall, before he had been tried, when the people expressed their hopes and anticipations, his majorities in Pennsylvania and Ohio were such as he could reasonably be proud of. But this year, after a brief trial of his administration, the great flush of confidence has so far abated, that nothing but the patronage he wields has saved him from a heavy rebuke. The great majorities by which he was elected have been very

nearly if not quite effaced. These elections have decided the fate of the fifteenth amendment—the leading measure of the Republican party. Pennsylvania having already ratified the amendment, the result in that State could have no effect on its success. But the election of a Democratic House in Ohio extinguishes any chance of a ratification of the amendment in that State; and so many States are wanting to make up the requisite three-fourths, that the Republicans can no longer entertain any hope of carrying the amendment.

These elections, even if there has been a small majority against us, illustrate the indomitable energy, pluck, and hopefulness of the Democratic party. Though badly beaten in the Presidential election, the party was not demoralized. It "bates no jot of heart or hope." So far from being cowed or discouwith unsubdued vigor and spirit, and nothing but the Federal patronage prevented its winning a great victory over its opponents. A party which rises after defeat with such irrepressible elasticity, and in the very next contest reduces adverse majorities of thirty or forty thousand to almost nothing, may feel a reasonable pride in its strength, and unfaltering confidence in its destiny.

If the comparative strength of the Repub licans is as much reduced in New York as it has been in Pennsylvania and Ohio, the Democratic party will carry the State next month by at least a hundred thousand ma-

THE FIGHTING IN SPAIN. From the N. Y. Herald.

The stubborn struggle that the revolted Spanish people have made and are still making in several of the provinces indicates that the real revolution-the real movement of the people to cast away a tyrannical dominationhas at last broken out. No doubt the fact that this movement was just beneath the surface was of great assistance to the oligarchs of the army and the navy when they drove out the Bourbon dynasty. No doubt, also, a great part of the power of those men before the country was derived from the supposition that they were ready to identify themselves with the will and purpose of the people in their aspiration to be free. But the nation has finally discovered that Prim, Serrano, and the rest only desired to change places with the persons that surrounded the Bourbon throne, and now it addresses itself to the labor of driving them out, just as their predecessors in the abuse of power were driven out. It begins well, for we cannot trust the stories of the suppression of revolt that we get every day. These stories come by way of Madrid or Paris in every ease, and in both cities the statement of news is distorted to the disadvantage of the struggling people. Indeed, the very fact that the world has been permitted to hear at all of the uprising indicates that it is well nigh beyond the power of the government to control it. An important point in regard to it lies in the consideration of what the conduct of the army will be. In the case of a French revolution we might almost calculate the date at which the soldiers would fraternize with the people, for it has always been the case in every French uprising that so soon as its proportions indi-cated that it was an expression of the general impulse of the nation, the soldiers would not fight against it. But then in France the army is so directly derived from the true body of the people, and in sympathy with the popular mind, that it could not well be otherwise In Spain, on the contrary, the army is an institution quite apart, and not inspired by or in sympathy with the general thought and feeling of the mass. This fact would much retard and may altogether prevent the influ-ence upon the soldiers of the acts of the to military authority; then a military tribunal people; yet we cannot believe but sooner or later the army will feel what it is that it is claring him incompetent, the affair passed to righting against, and will refuse obedience to the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, where the orders of its ambitious leaders. The it now sleeps. "We have now lost even the

But we take it that the state of the case

—The descendents of Henry Fowle, of Boston, have a set of chessmen presented to him by Louis Philippe, while teaching French in 1776.

moment it does so the republic is secure.

LITERATURE.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS. -From J. B. Lippincott & Co. we have received "Our Poor Girl: the Story of Thousands," by Wirt Sikes. This is an amplification of the story of "Susy Garland" that appeared some time since in the columns of Hearth and Home, combined with other sketches that Mr. Sikes is desirous of having preserved in a more permanent shape than they could be in the columns of a daily or weekly journal. Whether his readers will share his solicitude on this subject is at least open to question. We are informed that the story of "Susy Garland" was written in the railroad cars, or wherever the writer could find opportunity while travelling, and on glancing over it we find no reason to doubt the author's assertion on this point. It is badly imagined, badly constructed, and badly written, and indeed the whole book is about as weak an affair as has recently come under our notice. It is a series of sketches of low life in New York, and as local reprints in the columns of a daily newspaper some of them might pass muster; but when presented to the public in their present shape, we have a right to ask for better workmanship. Mr. Sikes may be a very good local reporter, but he is a very bad book-maker, and he is apparently deficient in the common sense with which most reporters are gifted, or he would not imagine that his scribblings could possibly interest any intelligent readers after they had once passed under survey in the

columns of a newspaper. The same house send us "Hester Strong's Life-work," by Mrs. S. A. Southworth, an entertaining domestic story of New England

-Claxton, Remsen & Haffelfinger send us "The Early History of the Falls of Schuylkill, Manayunk, Schuylkill and Lehigh Navigation Companies, Fairmount Water Works, etc.," by Charles V. Hagner. This work is the substance of two lectures delivered by Mr. Hagner in the year 1856 at Manayunk and the Falls of Schuylkill, and it contains many interesting reminiscences of those localities. It is a valuable contribution to our local history, and it will certainly find a large number of appreciative readers.

-From T. B. Peterson & Brothers we have received "Major Jones' Courtship," a humorous work that has achieved a fair amount of

-"The Atlantic Almanac" for 1870 presents an excellent list of articles in prose and verse, including contributions by E. E. Hall, W. D. Howells, W. M. Thackeray, Elizabeth S. Phelps, T. W. Higginson, Charles Dickens, Alfred Tennyson, J. R. Lowell, J. T. Trowbridge, William Cullen Bryant, and other first-class writers. The illustrations are generally good, but the frontispiece, after a picture by J. G. Brown, is an atrociously bad specimen of color printing; and "Shad Fishing," from a picture by Samuel Colman, is

-From T. Ellwood Zell we have received Nos. 57 and 58 of "Zell's Popular Encyclopedia," which is brought down to the title

-Turner Brothers & Co. send us Our Boys and Girls for October 23, and Appleton's Journal for the same date, which contains a portrait and sketch of Pere Hyacinthe, a fine steel engraving of Lake George from a picture raged, it entered into the contest this year by J. W. Casilear, and other interesting

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